

The Irish Man's

Disputation

LETTER

TO

Joseph Trapp,

In Vindication of the Bishop of Bangor's

SERMON

Concerning CHRIST being Sole
King and Law Giver to his Subjects,

Dan. 5. 21. And his Dwelling was with
the Wild Asses, they Fed him with
Grass like Oxen, and his Body was Wet
with the Dew of *Heaven*; till he knew
that the most high GOD Ruled in the
Kingdom of Men.

Dublin Printed 1717.



(3)

The Irish Man's

LETTER

TO JOSEPH TRAPP, in Vindication of
the Bishop of BANGOR'S

SERMON.

FRIEND,

I Send thee this Greeting, and that with
a Heart full of Joy, and with my
whole *Spirit* praiseth the *Omnipotent Lord*,
who out of his *Wonderful Mercy* and *un-
wearied Good* towards *Men*; more than
their Desarts, hath Vouchsafed of his good-
ness towards us, and in his Time hath
reached (in a particular manner unto the
Understanding of that excellent *Prelate* the
Bishop of Bangor, of which I hope he will
make him an *Eminent Minister* of the *New
Testament*. in order for the Drawing the
Hearts of the *People* from the *Shadowie
Figures* of *Men's Invention*, unto the du-
rable Substance of *True Worship* of the *Fa-
ther*, and that to draw them from the
blinding *Pastor*, unto the true *Pastor*, and
great *Bishop* of our Souls, As thou may see it
was

was the Work of the Apostle, 1st Pet. 11, 25.
 For yee were as Sheep going astray, but are
 now return'd to the Shepherd and Bishop of
 your Souls. Thou may mark the Words they
 were gathered then to Christ, the great Shep-
 herd of Souls, that gave his Life for the Sheep.
 John 10. 13. The Hireling fleeth, because
 he is an Hireling, and Careth not for the
 Sheep, 14. I am the good Shepherd saith
 Christ, and know my Sheep. and am known
 of mine. There is the Knowledge of the
 Church of C H R I S T, of their K I N G
 and (having Access, according to that
 Knowledge) is Life Eternal, for what
 further End hath any Christian than to Ar-
 rive at that State of Knowledge? Now I
 hope thou may observe, that the Word
 Knowledge of Christ is Twofold, viz, There
 is a Knowledge Historically, which thou
 pretends to make thy hearers know, there
 is also a Knowledge saveingly, that every
 Man may arrive to, without the help of
 any Vicegerents, as I shall here endeavour to
 make appear, considering now that there
 is a great Difference in matters of Know-
 ledge for altho' the Israelites Swore that
 the Lord Lived surely (saith the Prophet)
 they Swear falsely, Jerem. 5. 2. Why he

caus

cause they knew him not to live in them, for the *Apostle* Writing to the *Corinthians* saith *1 Cor. 19 3, And no Man can say that Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Ghost, and in order to come by it the Apostle further saith, Ver. 7. But the Manifestation of the Spirit is given to every Man to profit withal.*

Then I say if the *Spirit*, or a Portion of the *Holy Ghost* is given to every *Man* to profit with. Certainly the *Laiety* has the same Priviledge thereof as the *Clergy*, and if that they come to that true saving *Knowledge of Christ* that is by the *Guidence of the Spirit* that is given to every *Man*, who then I pray thee is *Conduſter* or *King*, and *Sole Law-giver*, and alſo *Sole Judge*? For ſhall the *Laiety* go to the *Clergy* to know the *Miſterys of the Kingdom* when they have a more & better *Judge* nearer at hand that is in themſelves leaſt that thou ſhould want a proof thereof I bring thee this *1 Cor. III 3* for as much as ye are manifeſtly *Declared to be the Epistle of Chriſt Miniſterd by us* Written not with *Ink* but with the *Spirit of our God*, not in *Tables of Stone*, but in the *Fleſhy Tables of the Heart*. The agreement with the *Pſalmiſt* is very near *Pſal. 19 7, The Law of the Lord is perfect* Convert-
ing

ing the Soul, the Testimony of the Lord is sure making Wise the simple, I say then as it is Evident from hence, that the Testimony of the Lord is sure making Wise the Simple: Herein is the saving Knowledge of God, for the simple to be made Wise, and to give unto *Babes* Understanding for the Wisdom of this World shall be Confounded, but the Wisdom that is from above shall be Durable and Everlasting: For as the *Church* is not of the World, as *Christ* is not of the World, it is not to be Governed by any of the World in Matters Relating to *Eternal Salvation*, for the Interposition of *Christ* in said Affair is manifest from thence, that he said *Loe I will be with you unto the End of the World*, then *Christ* our Lord being with us unto the end of the World, for what other End than that he would guide them by his *Spirit* unto the End. For it is Expedient saith he, that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come? but if I go I will pray the Father that he may send you another Comforter, even the Spirit of Truth that shall abide with you for ever, Further he saith, *Jo. 14. 19* At that Day yee shall know that I am in my

my Father and you in me, and I in you. Doeſt
 thou now but conſider this Caſe in Relation
 that Chriſt Exprefſes himſelf, ſo that he
 ſaith he was in the Believers of Old, and
 as he is one and Unchangeable, he is the
 ſame this Day in the Hearts of the Believ-
 ers reproving them, ſaying, *This is the way
 Walk in it and this is the Teacher that ſhould
 not be Removed into a Corner, but our Eyes
 ſhould behold him.* There is the true Teach-
 er, who willeth not that any ſhould Reign
 in his Kingdom, ſave himſelf, who is the
 Expounder of his own Laws, and Inter-
 preter of his own Words to the Believers.
 For who can be a Judge over my Conſci-
 ence ſave Chriſt, when it is Written, *The
 Things of Men knoweth no Man, ſave the
 Spirit of a Man, nor the Things of God
 knoweth any ſave the Spirit of God,* then
 ſurely if the Things of God ſeem Manifeſted
 by the Spirit of God, certainly the mean-
 ing of the Biſhop is not manifeſted to thee
 by that Spirit, for in thy Poſſcript, where-
 in thou ſays, *Not only Dr. Snape and my
 ſelf, but all the lower Houſe of Convocation,
 and every Body elſe as far as I can obſerve,
 hath it ſeems entirely been Ignorant of his
 meaning*

meaning (ie) The *Bisshop's* Meaning, How well may it be said the Carnal Mind knoweth not the Things of God, Further think thou, would it not be a great piece of Assurance in any to Censure such an Excellent Sermon as was Preach'd by the Bishop before they Understand the meaning thereof : But Blessed be the great God for causing Light to shine, and that thro' the dark Hearts of many. And I know not but might to thee or the rest, whereas being once Ignorant, may now become sensible of the meaning of that Warrantable piece, supported by many undeniable Truth and sound Text of Scriptures as aforegoing, That *Christ* as Sole King and Interpreter of his own Laws, So shall draw to a Conclusion, offering these few and scattered Sayings to the Understanding of every Rational Man; and that by any means they should be stirred up to well doing, that so they may come to know this excellent Teacher, and Sole Conductor to Teach and Guide them is the only Desire of thy Loving Friend, &c.

17 DE 64
E I N I S.

ow
ind
her
iece
an
the
ean.
God
thro'
now
ere-
ome
nta.
able
as
and
shall
few
and
by
to
e to
Sole
is
&c.